

Arizona Peace Officers Memorial Service

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer Monday, May 5, 2014, 7 p.m. Wesley Bolin Plaza

Thank you, Sergeant Chavez ... and good evening.

For 41 years, we have gathered to honor and remember the Arizona peace officers who have fallen in the line of duty while protecting our families, our neighborhoods and our streets from harm and evil.

And while we can never repay these heroes for their sacrifice, we can – and must – forever honor their memory.

This year, it is with great sadness – but even greater gratitude – that we pay tribute to three brave men taken from us far too soon:

Department of Public Safety Officer Timothy Huffman, Phoenix Police Officer Daryl Reatz and Pinal County Deputy Sheriff William Dobson. It was just hours before this memorial service last year that Officer Huffman was killed in the line of duty.

The deaths of these brave men – and those who have fallen before them – serve as a stark and sobering reminder of the dangers all of our officers knowingly and selflessly face on our behalf.

Let us never take them for granted.

We must always honor and gratefully recognize the heavy price paid by the dedicated officers who bravely serve while their loved ones must sit and wait.

Our thoughts and prayers are forever with the families of the fallen – and we thank them for their sacrifices, as well.

The greatest duty of government is to protect its citizens.

And one of the highest duty callings is taken on by the men and women who put on the badge and uniform -- day after day, night after night -- and patrol the darkness and danger to keep safe our families, neighborhoods and streets.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts, and may God bless and watch over you.

Thank you.